

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 310041 TOSEC 130033
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY INR: HHSAUDERS

APPROVED BY ACTING SECRETARY

NEA:WBRUBECK

S/S - FWISNER

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TO USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 310041 TOSEC 130033

NODIS

FOR SECRETARY AT OOB, FROM ACTING SEC. AND SAUNDERS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-L

TAGS: PGOV, EG, US, IS

SUBJECT: DRAFT ANNOUNCEMENT OF SECRETARY'S TRIP

TO JERUSALEM

1. FOLLOWING IS SUGGESTED TEXT OF STATEMENT THAT
MIGHT BE ISSUED BY PRESIDENT ANNOUNCING YOUR PRESENCE
AT JERUSALEM TALKS AND ATTEMPTING TO SET RECORD STRAIGHT
ON OUR POSITION TOWARD BEGIN PROPOSALS.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

IN RESPONSE TO INVITATIONS FROM THE GOVERNMENTS OF EGYPT
AND ISRAEL, THE PRESIDENT HAS ASKED SECRETARY VANCE TO
ATTEND THE OPENING SESSIONS OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE
WHICH WILL BEGIN MEETING JANUARY 15 IN JERUSALEM AS
A SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE CAIRO CONFERENCE.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS EXPRESSED TO THE TWO GOVERNMENTS THE
READINESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE
IN SUPPORT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WILL CONTINUE IN
THOSE MEETINGS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT BOTH SIDES WILL BE
PRESENTING SERIOUS AND CONCRETE PROPOSALS AS A BASIS
FOR NEGOTIATION.

THE ROLE OF THE UNITED STATES IS NOT TO ENDORSE ONE PROPOSAL OR ANOTHER, AND WE HAVE NOT DONE SO. OUR ROLE IS TO HELP THE NEGOTIATING PARTIES MOVE TOWARD COMMON GROUND AND AN AGREEMENT THAT WILL MEET THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF BOTH SIDES. INTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS AND DIFFICULT DECISIONS WILL BE REQUIRED, BUT WE BELIEVE THAT THE COMMITMENT TO PEACE OF PRESIDENT SADAT AND PRIME MINISTER BEGIN WILL ASSURE THAT THE HISTORIC OPPORTUNITY CREATED BY PRESIDENT SADAT'S INITIATIVE WILL NOT BE LOST.

END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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